



STATE OF HAWAII
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IN REPLY REFER TO:
HAR-EP
4464.14

April 4, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
United States. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Subject: TIGER Grant Application for the Pier 4 Wharf Improvement, Hilo Harbor,
Island of Hawaii

The Hawaii Department of Transportation, Harbors Division humbly request your support of our Transportation Investment Generating Economics Recovery (TIGER) application to move our New Day Initiatives forward to modernize our commercial harbors system.

Hawaii is an island state located in the middle of the Pacific. Due to our geographic isolation, we depend on ocean surface transportation for our daily sustenance. Our commercial harbors receive and process 98.6 percent of imported goods. Ocean transportation is our lifeline to the world, supporting every facet of the local economy.

Hilo Harbor is Hawaii Island's second commercial port facility and is an integral part of East Hawaii's economy. The Pier 4 Wharf Improvement will consist of building a new 602-foot long wharf to support modern interisland cargo operations presently being operated from a pier constructed in the 1920's. The project will have multiple beneficial outcomes:

- It will significantly expand commercial harbor capacity supporting tourism, construction, national defense, agriculture, export and other industries.
- It will benefit the local community and play a part in economic revitalization.
- It will support interisland cargo operations, which are currently congested.

The Pier 4 Wharf Improvement project has the full support of the Hawaii Harbors User Group. In addition, many others in the community support this important project. I have enclosed copies of letters of support from some of them.

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As the Director of the Hawaii Department of Transportation, I thank you for your careful consideration of our application.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Glenn M. Okimoto', written in a cursive style.

GLENN M. OKIMOTO, Ph.D.
Director of Transportation

Enc. Support Letters